

CONGRATULATING ILLINOIS BASKETBALL COACHES ASSOCIATION COACH OF THE YEAR CALEB BATSON

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caleb Batson, the seventh and eighth grade girls' basketball coach at Abingdon-Avon Middle School, who was named a Coach of the Year by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association.

The 2021–2022 season was Caleb's second as a coach at Abingdon-Avon Middle School. Both the seventh and eighth grade teams went 19–3 overall, with the 7th grade team winning the Class 3A sectional championship, and the 8th grade team winning the Class 3A regional title. Caleb is no stranger to developing young talent. In 2016 Caleb joined Monmouth College's men's basketball coaching staff, where, in 2018, he helped the Fighting Scots win the Midwest Conference regular season championship and the Midwest Conference tournament, giving Monmouth its first NCAA Division III Tournament berth since 1990. As a former athlete, I commend Caleb for his determination and hard work. Caleb has shown us all the importance of dedication and a strong work ethic. I am proud to see him represent our community so well throughout the state and the country with his talent and passion.

It is because of leaders such as Caleb that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Caleb Batson on being named a Coach of the Year by the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association.

HONORING DIANE PORTER COOLEY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the vibrant life of Diane Porter Cooley, a pillar of the Pajaro Valley and Santa Cruz County community, who passed away on March 10, 2022.

Born to a family that settled in Santa Cruz County in the 1850s, and raised on Las Lomas Ranch in Watsonville, Diane had a deep connection to the land and people of the central coast of California. Her father Tom was one of the four founders of Driscoll Berries, and Diane continued her involvement with agriculture until her death. Diane and her husband, Don, were active members of the community, constantly engaged in the issues they cared about.

A deeply passionate civic leader, Diane worked tirelessly to protect and preserve the environment, and was an outspoken advocate for the people of the Pajaro Valley. She once said, "I care for the trees but for humans, too. People should have the chance to thrive just like the Sequoia should stand tall."

She was a dynamic agent of change who championed the creation of the Elkhorn Slough Foundation, the Pajaro Valley Arts

Council, the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County, and the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. She was involved with the Nature Conservancy, served on the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency board, and was a supporter of many other causes, including Pajaro Valley Shelter Services, Salud Para la Gente, the University of California, Santa Cruz, Cabrillo College, and Second Harvest Food Bank in Watsonville. We may never know just how many lives she touched, or how many people received an education, braces, medical care, a home, or love when they needed it most thanks to her.

Madam Speaker, Diane Porter Cooley's outreach and philanthropy extended far and wide throughout our community. As Santa Cruz County bids farewell to its beloved daughter of 95 years, may her legacy of giving continue to inspire us for generations to come.

HONORING AIDAN SAMUEL HAMILTON

HON. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Aidan Samuel Hamilton for earning the rank of Eagle Scout in Troop 89 of Brandon, FL.

Only four percent of Boy Scouts reach the highest honor of Eagle Scout. This special recognition requires years of effort to develop leadership, outdoor, and service skills. To earn it, Aidan led his Troop to construct a large landscape planter at a local high school. Aidan has also volunteered at a local ministry to feed the homeless in the Tampa area and worked to raise funds for ZooTampa at Lowry Park.

Friends and fellow Scouts have described Aidan as a hard-working and dedicated member of his local community. On behalf of the Fifteenth Congressional District of Florida, congratulations again to Aidan Samuel Hamilton on earning the rank of Eagle Scout. We are proud of his continued success and appreciate his dedication to making our community a better place.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF CELESTE "CLETE" BOYKIN

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Celeste "Clete" Boykin for her outstanding service to our state.

A native of Lancaster, Clete has selflessly served the state of South Carolina and Clemson University for decades. Throughout her time as an undergraduate student, she proudly played in the Tiger Band and graduated from Clemson University with a degree in horticulture in 1979. Since then, she has dedicated much of her life to Clemson University and its students. She currently serves on the Clemson Regional Board of Directors for the Baltimore/DC Clemson Club to ensure the Club is one of the best in the nation. Clete also serves as the Chairperson of the Board

of Advisors for the Clemson Institute for Parks, which provides research, education, training, and outreach to enhance parks and protected areas.

In addition to her involvement with Clemson University, Clete has educated the South Carolina Delegation on numerous federal issues, including cybersecurity, trade, agriculture, industry, and transportation. Clete is a respected, dependable, and humble community leader. She has exceeded expectations in service to our nation, highlighted by her receipt of numerous honors and accolades. In 2014, Clete received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Tin Cup Awards for her work in the Washington Government Relations Group (WGRG), one of the nation's oldest volunteer organizations for Black government employees. More recently, Clete received the Clemson Alumni Association's Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor the Association can bestow upon an alumnus or alumna. The Distinguished Service Award is given to alumni who have not only dedicated their life to professionalism and public service, but who have also continued a lifelong dedication to Clemson University.

On behalf of the 5th District of South Carolina, it is my most sincere pleasure to recognize Clete for her outstanding leadership and public service. I wish her the best of luck throughout her future endeavors, as I am confident she will continue to serve and find great success in all that she does.

CONGRATULATING HEDY WEINBERG

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hedy Weinberg, who is retiring in June as the executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Tennessee after 38 years advancing and protecting civil rights. Ms. Weinberg, a native of Chicago, has been at the forefront of legal battles to protect the rights of LGBT people, prison inmates, immigrants and those seeking access to legal abortions. She has stood up for voting rights and religious freedom, while challenging laws restricting the teaching of evolution. She has worked to end racial profiling by law enforcement. Ms. Weinberg's tenure at the ACLU has run concurrent with my service in the state Senate and in Congress. It has always been gratifying and comforting to know that the ACLU and Hedy were there supporting the issues that needed support to protect our Constitution and our fundamental rights. Ms. Weinberg has been recognized for her advocacy work and is the recipient of the Human Relations Award from the National Conference on Community and Justice—Nashville Chapter; the Tennessee Library Association's Freedom of Information Award; and the Human Rights Campaign Equality Award. In 2012, she was inducted into the Academy for Women of Achievement by the YWCA of Nashville and Middle Tennessee and in 2016 received the Bridge Builders—LifeTime Achievement Award from the American Muslim Advisory Council. Ms. Weinberg was a founding and steering committee member of "Nashville For All of